

ready to sign, but the Navy cannot sign these contracts without an appropriations bill. We risk throwing away savings on the order of hundreds of millions of dollars if we do not enact the fiscal year 2013 appropriations bill.

The ramifications of inaction on a full-year appropriations bill are not limited to the 6 months remaining in this fiscal year. Failing to enact a full-year appropriations bill that allows new starts and cost-saving multiyear procurement contracts will jeopardize the long-term stability in the shipbuilding industrial base that the Congress and the Navy have worked long and hard to preserve.

When I questioned Deputy Secretary Carter on February 14, 2013, at a Senate Appropriations Committee hearing about what the continuing resolution means for shipbuilding, he testified that “we’re in the absurd position where we’re five months into the fiscal year and we have the authority to build the ships that we built last year and no authority to build the ships that we plan to build this year. That’s crazy. . . . And that has nothing to do with sequester, by the way, that’s the C.R.”

The existing continuing resolution expires on March 27. That deadline is just 4 weeks away, but each week that passes puts our military increasingly at risk and makes it less prepared.

I know the chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and its ranking member, Senator MIKULSKI and Senator SHELBY, share my concern that continuing resolutions are not the way to govern. I am also encouraged about reports that the House of Representatives may consider a bill next week which includes a full-year defense and a full-year veterans affairs and military construction budget.

At least as far back as 1974, Congress has never failed to pass a Department of Defense appropriations bill. Now is not the time, with troops in the field and the looming threat of sequestration, to establish a dangerous precedent of denying our military services the support they need to accomplish the mission we have asked them to perform.

This year’s continuing resolution hurts our military readiness now and, even more, in the future.

It is time to show the American people that we can act responsibly before the very last minute. The men and women who serve our country are performing every task we have asked of them. It is long overdue for the Congress to do the same, so I urge the Senate to act to replace the current CR with a full-year Department of Defense appropriations bill as our amendment would provide.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. DEBOBES

Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, today I honor an exceptional public servant and patriot. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, Richard D.

“Rick” DeBobes is retiring from his position as staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, effective February 28, 2013. On this occasion, it is fitting to recognize Rick’s 50 years of uniformed and civilian service to our Nation.

Rick began his career as a naval officer, serving 26 exemplary years in jobs that included directing the International Negotiations Branch of the Navy’s Judge Advocate General, commanding the Naval Legal Service Office, and finally serving as the legal adviser and legislative assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he helped craft policies that have shaped our modern joint military force. Such a career, in and of itself, illustrates a commitment to causes greater than self-interest.

Rick’s devotion to service and excellence continued long after he left active duty. Upon his retirement from the Navy, he joined the Senate Armed Services Committee as counsel, advising committee members on issues relating to national security strategy, defense policy, foreign affairs, and Department of Defense organization and management. Rick’s authoritative analysis and counsel to members distilled complex issues and often served as a basis for common understanding and problem solving. Few were surprised then, when in 2003 he was asked by Senator CARL LEVIN to be the committee’s staff director. Ten years on, the wisdom of that selection is evident. Rick’s steady management of the committee, amidst strong personalities and throughout the occasionally animated policy debates, has yielded the admiration of his professional colleagues in Congress and the Department of Defense, and a long record of legislative success. Thoughtful leaders throughout government will feel his absence.

I join many past and present members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in my gratitude to Rick DeBobes for his outstanding leadership in uniform and in Congress, and his unceasing support for members of the Armed Forces. I wish him and his wife Margaret “fair winds and following seas.”

RETIREMENT OF WAYNE LEONARD

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Wayne Leonard, who served as Entergy’s chief executive officer from 1999 and chairman/CEO from 2006 until January 2013. Over the course of those years, his visionary leadership as Entergy’s top executive also encompassed impassioned advocacy for issues such as climate change, poverty and social justice. To a great extent, his compassion for people from all walks of life and his desire to protect the environment for future generations came to define his tenure at Entergy.

When Leonard was named CEO in 1999, he began calling for action by business, community, and political leaders to break the cycle of poverty

that has stunted economic growth in the mid-South region for generations. Since that time, Entergy has donated more than \$50 million to charitable initiatives and advocacy efforts that successfully helped move low-income residents toward self-sufficiency. Among them were campaigns to improve early childhood education programs and financial support of a matched-savings program that has helped 19,000 people and created an economic impact of \$69 million over the last decade.

Leonard pioneered the pursuit of sustainability within his industry. Early on, he recognized the importance to the industry’s future of operating in an economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable manner. His achievements include a number of landmarks that set the standard and shaped the future for the energy industry. Under his leadership, in 2001 Entergy became the first utility in the United States to commit to voluntarily reduce greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, work force safety, customer satisfaction, and strong regulatory relationships were always top priorities for Leonard. Entergy has delivered top-quartile shareholder return—the overarching financial goal Leonard set for the company—since he was announced as CEO in 1998.

After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Leonard led the restoration not just of a company but also a city and its surrounding region. Entergy and its charitable foundation donated more than \$20 million to nonprofits working to rebuild the physical, intellectual, and cultural assets of New Orleans. When Katrina’s damages prompted Entergy to consider relocating its corporate headquarters, Leonard lobbied to keep Entergy in New Orleans and take a lead role in the city’s revitalization and renewal.

Leonard has personally received numerous national honors in recognition of his outstanding leadership, including Platts Global Energy CEO of the Year, the Anti-Defamation League Torch of Liberty Award, and the National Wildlife Federation Achievement Award. During his tenure, Entergy was named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for 11 consecutive years for demonstrating strong financial performance and outstanding leadership in environmental and social commitment.

Leonard’s passionate commitment to building a strong, sustainable company, community, and energy industry never wavered in 14 years. In honor of his legacy, Entergy endowed a \$5 million charitable fund upon his retirement to continue his work on climate change, poverty, and social justice issues. The fund is being endowed through shareholder-funded donations to the Entergy Charitable Foundation, with Leonard serving as an adviser.

While I will miss working with Wayne to improve both New Orleans and Louisiana, I applaud the work he has done to leave my city and my State stronger, healthier, and on the path to a brighter future.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I rise to honor and remember the full life of Marlene “Linny” Fowler for her exceptional service to her community, commonwealth and country.

Marlene was born in New York City, the oldest child of Harold and Miriam Oberkotter. Though she was raised in Harrington Park, NJ, Marlene spent her adult life living in Pennsylvania. Marlene, known affectionately as Linny, was a renowned philanthropist, artist and a pillar of her adopted community. Today I wish to honor her as such.

As a philanthropist, her influence can be seen across Northeast Pennsylvania, particularly in Bethlehem, the city she had called home since 1965. Upon the passing of her father Harold, a late UPS chief executive, Marlene became one of the wealthiest individuals in the Lehigh Valley. Choosing to eschew large homes or fancy cars, Marlene instead gave generously to support the arts, education and children. She helped to establish a childcare center and Hispanic Youth Center at Northampton County Community College as well as the college's Southside campus, which proudly bears her family name. Her generosity also helped send hundreds of students to colleges and universities that they would otherwise have been unable to afford to attend. Even with her health failing, Marlene worked hard to maintain her involvement with the community up until her passing. Although she kept the total of her generosity a secret, by her own admission she gave away tens of millions of dollars over the course of her life.

As an artist, Marlene was trained in the art of stained glass, which she taught throughout her life. She also maintained a studio at the Banana Factory in Bethlehem, an institution she helped fund. As a pillar of her community, Marlene made sure her philanthropic efforts always had a human touch. She met with needy families and non-profit directors in the living room of her own home, investing herself as much as her money. Even as recent economic difficulties forced her to scale back some of her giving, she still continued to keep track of all the youth she helped send to school.

As Marlene's family and friends mourn her loss, I pray that they will be comforted by the knowledge that this great Nation will never forget the generosity of Marlene “Linny” Fowler. May she rest in peace.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

STEM EDUCATION

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the great work that afterschool and summer learning programs in California and across the country are doing to engage children and youth in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, education.

Afterschool and summer programs are a vital part of our country's education tapestry. They provide engaging, hands-on learning experiences that stimulate student interest, develop crucial skills, and drive home the relevance of STEM to our daily lives. Out-of-school learning opportunities help children develop the academic and life skills, such as problem-solving and determination, which are crucial in STEM fields. Additionally, these programs provide key opportunities for mentors and role models to engage with children.

High-quality afterschool STEM learning programs are having a significant impact on the young people who participate in them. A recent study shows participants in afterschool and summer programs have improved attitudes toward STEM fields and careers, increased STEM capacities and skills, and a higher likelihood of graduating from high school and pursuing a STEM major in college.

One of these exemplary programs is the Woodcraft Rangers Program in Los Angeles, CA. Woodcraft Rangers exposes middle school students to cutting-edge STEM activities, including robotics. This highly engaging program allows students to configure high-tech robotics, enhancing their STEM skills, unlocking their imaginations, and exposing them to real-world problem-solving situations. Afterschool and summer programs are uniquely positioned to deliver valuable enrichment activities like robotics that help children gain valuable creativity, critical thinking, and team-building skills.

In addition to programs that serve children and youth directly, organizations such as the Afterschool Alliance are working to advance policies, research, and partnerships so that all children can access rich STEM education experiences through out-of-school programs.

Private companies are also embarking on efforts, such as Time Warner Cable's Connect a Million Minds, CAMM, initiative, to promote youth interest and performance in STEM fields during out-of-school time. Businesses like Time Warner Cable know that investing in STEM education now helps ensure a robust workforce in the future, and they know that afterschool, summer, and other out-of-school programs are key venues for students to develop the problem-solving, team-building, and creative thinking skills necessary for a strong STEM workforce.

I applaud the afterschool and summer learning programs, advocacy organizations, and community partnerships across the country that are working to advance our students' STEM achievement and our country's future through enriching out-of-school learning. To support the work of these organizations, I hope that the Senate can come together to reauthorize the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program—the only Federal program dedicated to supporting afterschool and summer learning. •

TRIBUTE TO JIM SYMINGTON

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Madam President, I ask the Senate to join me today in honoring the work of Jim Symington, a friend and dedicated public servant who is retiring this year. In the summer of 1974 I came to Washington as an intern for Congressman Jim Symington. That experience, and the lessons I learned from this great leader were instrumental in my success as a political candidate and public official.

As a member of a family steeped in public service, and as the son of the great United States Senator Stuart Symington, Jim did not hesitate to take up the mantle of serving his country. Jim started his career serving others when he enlisted in the Marine Corps as a high school graduate. Following his military service, Jim earned his Bachelor's degree from Yale University and his law degree from Columbia Law School.

Jim served for 2 years following law school as the assistant city counselor for St. Louis before going into private practice. In 1958, Jim entered the Foreign Service where he served as assistant to the United States ambassador for the United Kingdom. Upon his return to Washington, DC Jim served our Government in various positions including administrative assistant to Attorney General Robert Kennedy and the Chief of Protocol for the Department of State.

In 1968 Jim was elected to represent St. Louis, Missouri's 2nd Congressional District, where he served four terms. During his time in Congress, Jim served on the House Commerce Committee and the Committee on Science and Technology. He also served as the chair of the Subcommittees on Space Science and Applications; Science, Research & Technology; and International Cooperation. He was an active voice on space exploration during a time when space exploration was a central topic. Upon leaving Congress in 1977, Jim returned to private law practice, and has had a distinguished legal career at Nossaman LLP/O'Connor & Hannan here in Washington, DC.

However Jim Symington has never been an ordinary practicing lawyer. He and his wife Sylvia have been friends, mentors, and highly respected members of a small group of true leaders in our America's Capitol for many years. They are always in high demand as dinner partners or leaders of a civic endeavor. Together, their wit, intelligence, and musical prowess has constantly reminded the most powerful in our Nation that there is always more to learn and it is very dangerous to take yourself too seriously.

It is my honor to call Jim a mentor and friend. Like no other man I know, I also realize that the number of people who count on his friendship would be a record for a town where Harry Truman famously noted that if you wanted a friend you should turn to a canine. I am thankful for his friendship, advice and service to Missouri and this great